

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 4 and 7-12.

In Fig. 4, "16" has been added to show the claimed "lip" feature.

In Fig. 7, "18" has been added to show the claimed "housing located region" feature.

In Figs. 8-12, "17" has been added to show the claimed "section" feature.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR §1.83(a) for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. The drawings have been amended above to address the examiners concerns.

Claims 3, 6, 10, 12, 13, 17, 20, 24, 26, 27, 29, 32, and 35-37 were objected to under 37 CFR §1.75(d)(1) for lack of clear support or antecedent basis in the description. The claims have been amended above to address the examiners concerns.

Claims 1-24 and 26-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Uchida (US 5,975,914). Claim 36 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Uchida (US 5,975,914) in view of Peterson (US 5,257,948). Claim 37 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Peterson (US 5,257,948) in view of Hooley et al. (US 5,966,267). The examiner is requested to reconsider these rejections.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). It is submitted that Uchida fails to teach each and every element as set forth in claims 1 and 15 for at least the reasons described below.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite, *inter alia*, "said housing presenting a single latching means ... wherein the single latching means extends from only a center portion of

said housing". The latching means is arranged in a center or middle portion of the housing which provides an easy and reliable electrical connection which minimizes warping of the printed circuit board under the compressive forces of the compressive connection. In contrast, Uchida merely discloses an electrical connector 10 comprising four flexible fastening legs 32. The four flexible fastening legs 32 "are formed at the four corners of the lower surface 24" (see Figs. 1-9, 10-12 and col. 3, lines 24-25). The fastening legs 32 provide for increased fastening complexity as features at each corner of the connector have to be aligned. Additionally, the positioning of the fastening legs 32 may cause warping of a printed circuit board under the compressive contact forces. Furthermore, the fastening legs 32 in Uchida are required to be located at the four corners as the "legs 32 also act to protect the contact members 54 and 58" (see Figs. 1-9, 10-12 and col. 3, lines 25-29). Thus, Uchida fails to teach a single latching means which extends from only a center portion of said housing, as claimed in amended claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over the art of record and should be allowed.

Though dependent claims 2-14, 29, 36, and 37 contain their own allowable subject matter, these claims should at least be allowable due to their dependence from allowable claim 1. However, to expedite prosecution at this time, no further comment will be made.

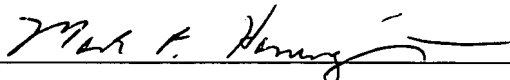
Applicant has amended claim 15 to recite, *inter alia*, "wherein the latching means extends from only a center portion of said housing". Similar to the arguments above with respect to

claim 15, Uchida teaches four fastening legs 32 at the corners of the connector 10. Thus, Uchida fails to teach a single latching means which extends from only a center portion of said housing, as claimed in amended claim 15. Accordingly, claim 15 is patentable over the art of record and should be allowed.

Though dependent claims 16-28, 32, and 35 contain their own allowable subject matter, these claims should at least be allowable due to their dependence from allowable claim 15. However, to expedite prosecution at this time, no further comment will be made.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issue remain, the examiner is invited to call applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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3/30/07

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Reply to Office Action of: 01/11/2007



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3/30/2007
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